



*News from*

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**CONGRESSIONAL NEGOTIATORS DELIVER LUMP-OF-COAL  
INTEL BILL TO 9/11 FAMILIES FOR CHRISTMAS**  
*But Tancredo, House Conservatives Claim Partial Victory in Securing Bush  
Commitment on Addressing Driver's License Issue Next Year*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Tancredo (R-Littleton) expressed disappointment with the conference report on the intelligence bill after negotiators on the bill stripped key border security provisions approved by the House of Representatives in October from the bill. Tancredo had been a leader in the effort to retain the provisions – recommended by the 9/11 Commission – executing a parliamentary maneuver prior to the Thanksgiving recess temporarily thwarting efforts to remove them.

“Senate negotiators are today the ‘Grinches that stole America’s security’,” said Tancredo, “But make no mistake, the American people will know which of their Representatives were naughty, and which ones were nice.”

“Today this congress overwhelmingly approved an empty shell of a bill that will provide far more fodder for politicians’ press releases than it will security for the public,” said Tancredo, “It creates the illusion of security, which in some ways is more dangerous than doing nothing at all.”

But Tancredo and other House Conservatives did score one victory as a result of their efforts to retain the provisions by exacting a promise from the White House to address border security early next year.

Despite the Senate’s decision to strip from the conference report sections prohibiting illegal aliens from obtaining Driver’s Licenses and prevent the abuse of asylum laws, President Bush signaled his commitment to work with Congress to enact such a prohibition next year. In a letter to Congress last night, Bush wrote, “*I look forward to working with the Congress early in the next session to address [border security] issues, including improving our asylum laws and standards for issuing driver’s licenses.*”

“While I am disappointed that Congress – in classic fashion – has squandered this golden opportunity, I am encouraged by the President’s commitment,” concluded Tancredo, “And I have every intention of making sure he keeps it.”

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<http://www.house.gov/tancredo/>